Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

52F

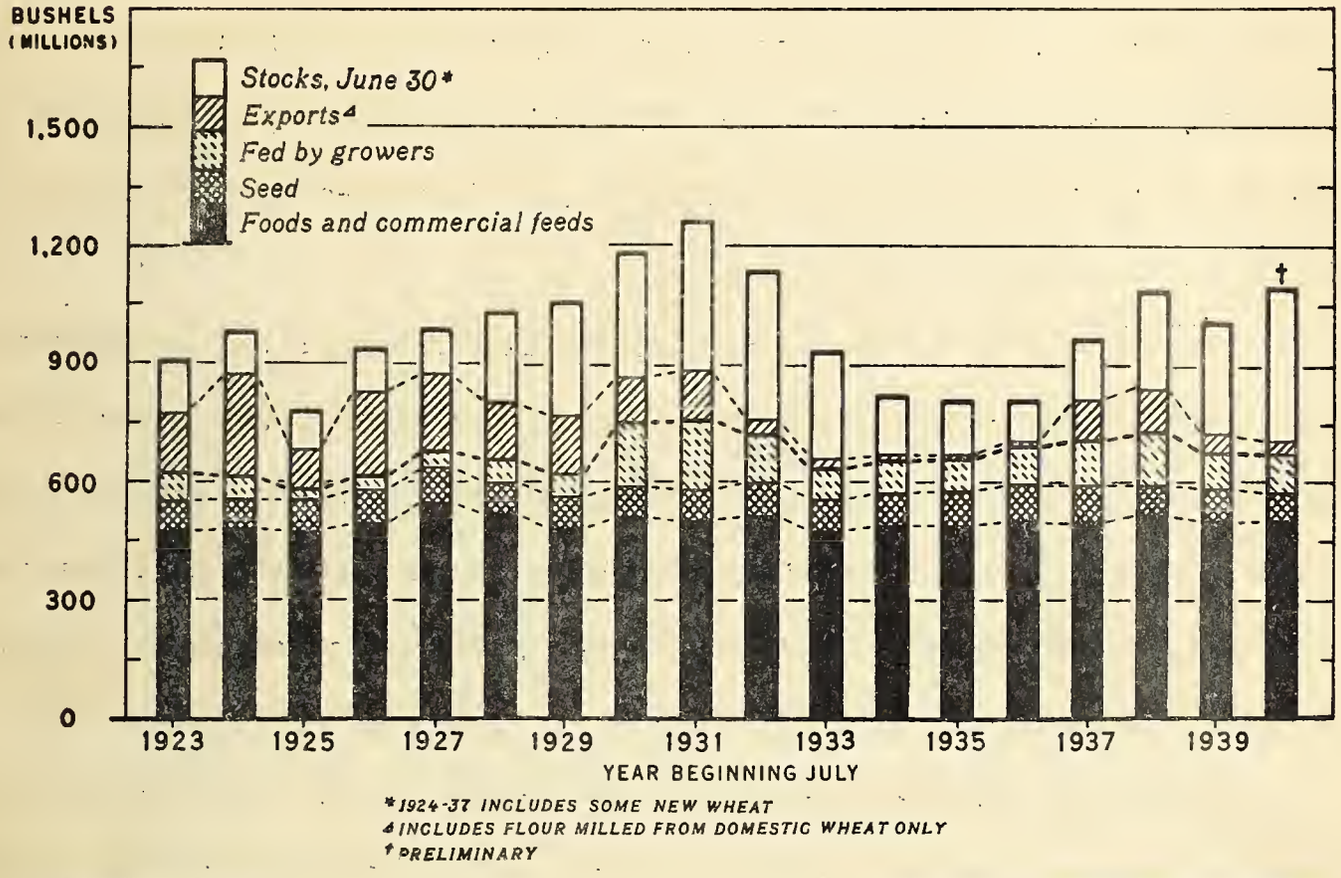
THE Wheat SITUATION

RECEIVED
★ MAY 2 1941
U.S. Department of Agriculture

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WS-54 BAE APRIL 1941

WHEAT: DISTRIBUTION OF U. S. SUPPLY, 1923-40



*1924-37 INCLUDES SOME NEW WHEAT
⁴INCLUDES FLOUR MILLED FROM DOMESTIC WHEAT ONLY
†PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 31821 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE CARRYOVER OF OLD CROP WHEAT ON JULY 1, 1941 IS EXPECTED TO TOTAL ABOUT 400 MILLION BUSHELS, THE LARGEST ON RECORD. THIS IS ABOUT 100 MILLION BUSHELS ABOVE STOCKS ON JULY 1, 1940, AND REFLECTS THE LARGER 1940 CROP AND LOW LEVEL OF EXPORTS IN 1940 COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER. A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF THIS CARRYOVER WILL BE HELD BY THE COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION AND RESEALED ON FARMS.

EXPORTS SINCE 1931 (EXCEPT 1937 AND 1938) HAVE BEEN VERY SMALL, REFLECTING DRASTIC RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS BY AND INCREASED PRODUCTION IN MAJOR IMPORTING COUNTRIES. VARIATIONS IN TOTAL DOMESTIC DISAPPEARANCE DEPEND LARGELY ON THE QUANTITY OF WHEAT FED; THE QUANTITY USED FOR FOOD AND SEED CHANGES RELATIVELY LITTLE FROM YEAR TO YEAR.

THE WHEAT SITUATION

Summary

The domestic wheat supply in 1941-42 is still placed at about 1,200 million bushels. If the winter wheat crop turns out to be about 616 million bushels as indicated on the basis of April 1 condition, and if spring wheat acreage should be about as indicated by prospective plantings reports and yields per acre should be about average, the new crop would total about 800 million bushels. The carry-over is now expected to total about 390 million bushels. The total in 1940-41 was 1,099 million bushels, consisting of a crop of 817 million bushels and a July 1, 1940 carry-over of 282 million bushels.

On the basis of supplies of 1,200 million bushels, and prospects that domestic disappearance will be about 675 million bushels, the quantity available for export and shipments in 1941-42, or for carry-over into the 1942-43 season, would be about 525 million bushels. Exports and shipments may not be greatly different from those in 1940-41, which are expected to total 30-35 million bushels.

Prospects continue for a world wheat crop in 1941 not greatly different from that of last year. Much, however, will depend upon developments in Canada, where a new Government program calls for a large reduction in this year's crop. Some increase is expected in Europe and Australia over last year's small outturns. No important reduction in acreage is likely in Argentina unless the season is unfavorable, as growers are hopeful that the Government aid will be continued.

During the past month domestic wheat prices continued the advance which started on March 7, and on April 5 reached the highest levels since May 14, 1940. The advance was largely influenced by the possibility that

new legislation might be enacted which would increase loan rates on new crop wheat. Current prices are somewhat below the peak on April 5 reflecting lack of progress in farm legislation, good rains over the Grain Belt, and unfavorable war news.

-- April 25, 1941.

THE DOMESTIC WHEAT SITUATION

BACKGROUND.- In the 10-year period 1930-39 the carry-over of old wheat in the United States averaged about 230 million bushels, and domestic disappearance about 695 million bushels.

Domestic wheat prices from the spring of 1933 to the spring of 1937 were unusually high in relation to world prices as the result of small crops in the United States. In 1937 United States production was large and prices declined. In 1938, with domestic production again large, with a record world crop, and with lower commodity prices generally, prices again declined, and would have averaged still lower had it not been for the loan and export-subsidy programs which held domestic prices above export parity.

Prices received by growers for wheat during the year beginning July 1939, averaging 69 cents, continued relatively high compared with the usual relationship to prices in other countries, as a result of only a moderately large carry-over, reduced acreage, poor prospects for 1940 yields, and holding of wheat in expectation of high prices.

Prices advanced sharply in September 1939, following the outbreak of the European war, and again in December, influenced by war developments and by poor crop prospects in Argentina and the United States. In the middle of May 1940, following the turn of events in Europe, selling became heavy and most of the gains were lost. From the middle of May until the middle of August prices declined seasonally, then they advanced until the middle of November. After two downswings, they have again risen, and are now almost as high as at any time during the season.

Wheat supplies in 1941-42 may approximate 100 million bushels above year earlier

If the winter wheat crop turns out to be about 616 million bushels as indicated on the basis of April 1 condition, and if spring wheat acreage should turn out to be about as indicated by prospective plantings reports and yields per should be about average, the new crop would total about 800 million bushels. With the carry-over now estimated at about 390 million bushels, total supplies would approximate 1,200 million bushels. The total in 1940-41 was 1,099 million bushels, consisting of a carry-over of 282 million bushels and a crop of 817 million bushels.

On the basis of supplies of 1,200 million bushels, and prospects that domestic disappearance will be about 675 million bushels, the quantity available for export, shipments, and carry-over would be about 525 million bushels. Exports and shipments may total about the same as in 1940-41 when they are expected to be about 30-35 million bushels.

Winter wheat production: The prospective 1941 winter wheat crop, placed at 616,128,000 bushels on the basis of April 1 indications, issued by the Crop Reporting Board April 10, is 4.6 percent larger than the 1940 crop of 589,151,000 bushels, and 8 percent above the 10-year (1930-37) average production of 569,417,000 bushels. Little change in the general winter wheat outlook is indicated by weather reports since April 1.

Winter wheat was seeded last fall under generally favorable soil moisture conditions in all areas, except in an area extending from west central Illinois through southern Iowa, northern Missouri, northeastern Kansas, and the eastern two-thirds of Nebraska, where fall growth was retarded by a shortage of rainfall. The severe storm on November 11 accompanied by freezing temperatures came before the wheat plants were weather hardened and caused damage in this area which was not apparent when the wheat entered the winter. There was further injury from low temperatures in March in this same area and in States to the north. The extent of the injury from the early fall and late spring freezes is still uncertain in the northern part of the Winter Wheat Belt, where on April 1 wheat was still somewhat dormant. Growers' reports of conditions and probable abandonment on April 1, however, indicate considerable loss of acreage in this midwestern area. In the Middle Atlantic States the tops of the wheat plants were browned by spring cold and high winds. There was some shortage of moisture during March in the Northern Great Plains and Mountain States. Wet weather and cloudiness are affecting wheat adversely in California. Conditions are very favorable in the Pacific Northwest.

The preliminary indication of acreage remaining for harvest indicates an abandonment of 13.9 percent of the seeded acreage, compared with abandonment of 17.5 percent last year, and the 10-year average abandonment of 18.6 percent. Comparatively low loss of acreage due to winter killing and diversion is indicated, except in the belt that was injured by the early fall and late spring freezes, where heavy losses of acreage appear to have occurred. There are only four important wheat States in which the indications of abandonment are higher than the 10-year average. These are Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa, and New Mexico. With this comparatively low abandonment for the United States the acreage of winter wheat remaining for harvest in 1941 would be 39,859,000 acres, compared with 36,147,000 acres harvested in 1940, and the 10-year average of 39,141,000 harvested acres.

The indicated yield of 13.3 bushels per seeded acres is slightly below the 1940 seeded yield of 13.4 bushels per acre, but otherwise the highest yield since the 18.1 bushels produced in 1931. The 10-year average is 11.8 bushels per acre.

Spring wheat production: The Crop Reporting Board will indicate a probable range in spring wheat production in its report on June 10, and will issue its first estimate on July 10. Correlation studies by the Bureau indicate that, while fall precipitation exercises some influence, the size

of the crop is determined chiefly by June and July temperature and April-May precipitation. Since April 1, precipitation has been generally considerably above normal in all spring wheat States. In the absence of any other basis, average yields for spring wheat of 10.4 bushels per seeded acre and prospective plantings of 17.1 million acres were assumed in the general summary of the wheat supply situation given earlier in this report.

Old-wheat carry-over July 1: The carry-over of old wheat on July 1, 1941 may total about 390 million bushels. This is 9 million bushels larger than indicated a month ago, and takes into account the likelihood of some decrease in wheat feeding from that previously expected because of the increase in wheat prices. Also, the July 1, 1941 commercial wheat stocks figure will include stocks at 2 points reported this year for the first time.

April 1 farm stocks largest on record;
July-April farm disappearance 16 million bushels above same period year earlier

Stocks of wheat on farms April 1, 1941 totaled 195.8 million bushels, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This includes wheat held on farms under loan. Stocks were 27 percent above the 153.8 million bushels on farms a year earlier, 50 percent above the 10-year (1929-38) average April 1 stocks of 130.6 million bushels, and slightly larger than the record 188.4 million bushels on April 1, 1939. Stocks were particularly large in the spring wheat States, and in the central Great Plains area. The April 1 stocks total 22 percent of the previous July 1 total farms stocks and crop, which compares with 18 percent a year earlier and 16 percent the 10-year average.

Disappearance of wheat from farms July-March totaled 704.1 million bushels, 16 million bushels more than in the same period a year earlier, and 25 million bushels above the 10-year average. Disappearance of wheat for the quarter ended April 1 this year was 88 million bushels compared with 80.7 million bushels last year and the 10-year average for the quarter of 88.4 million bushels. The favorable 1940 production, improved market prices, and open country roads for hauling most of the quarter were important factors in maintaining the average market movement.

The distribution of farm stocks by classes was as follows: hard red winter 68.7 million bushels; soft red winter 33.9 million bushels; white (winter and spring combined) 14.5 million bushels; hard red spring 63.9 million bushels; and durum 14.8 million bushels.

Commercial stocks of wheat on April 1, 1941 totaled 141.9 million bushels. Stocks on April 1, 1940 totaled 105.4 million bushels, but the figure for this year is not strictly comparable with that of last year because two additional markets are now included. Excluding stocks in these two markets, April 1 commercial stocks were the largest since 1933, when they totaled 135.6 million bushels.

Stocks of wheat in interior mills, elevators, and warehouses on April 1 will be reported by the Crop Reporting Board on April 25. Data for merchant mills and elevators will be available in early May from the Bureau of Census, Department of Commerce.

Domestic wheat prices slightly below the high for the season

During the past month domestic wheat prices continued the advance which started March 7, and on April 4 and 5 reached the highest levels since May 14, 1940. Since May 5, however, prices have declined so that on April 24 they were only slightly above those on March 24. On April 24, Chicago May at 90 cents was about 2 cents higher than on March 24, and 3 cents below the peak on April 4. The advance was largely influenced by the possibility that new legislation might be enacted which would increase loan rates on new crop wheat. The reaction from the high of the season reflected lack of progress in farm legislation, good rains in many sections of the grain belt, and unfavorable war news.

The amount that current prices are now above export price levels is indicated by the export indemnity which would be required to export wheat to Europe. Computed on the basis of export values, this would be about 25 cents from the Gulf and 22 cents from Pacific ports, or about the same as a month ago. Prices of domestic spring wheat at Buffalo are about 17 cents lower than those of Canadian wheat of a comparable quality, c.i.f., duty paid, at Buffalo, compared with 15 cents a month ago.

Wheat prices early in April were sufficiently high to enable wheat producers to repay their loans and sell their wheat in the market at some profit above the loan. Repayments on 1940 wheat loans of about 21 million bushels were reported to April 15, 1941. At the same time deliveries to the Commodity Credit Corporation were reported as about 19 million bushels, leaving the quantity of the 1940 loans remaining under loan on that date 238 million bushels, of which about 191 million bushels were in warehouses and 47 million bushels on farms. In addition about 10 million bushels of 1939 wheat was still stored on farms. Warehouse storage loans on the 1940 crop were made for 8 months, but not later than April 30, while farm storage may continue for 10 months from the date of execution.

In most years when supplies are large, domestic wheat prices in May are higher than in the months immediately following, when prices adjust to the new crop situation. With the heavy seasonal movement the low of the year usually occurs in the July-September period. Last year the low was reached in mid-August. This year, however, there are two important features which distinguish the situation: (1) Even though supplies of old crop wheat are large, a very considerable portion will be held by the Commodity Credit Corporation; and (2) considerable new crop wheat will be held off the market under a loan program if the marketing quota referendum 1/ receives a favorable two-thirds vote on May 31. Restriction of the free flow of both old and new crop wheat will continue to make the loan effective in placing a more or less flexible floor under prices, thereby modifying the usual seasonal movement. Every effort is being made to guard against market congestion in any distribtuion of loan wheat before the new crop comes to market or in connection with the marketing of the new crop. The development of congestion at localized points, however, could tend to offset a part of the influence of the loan program in certain areas.

1/ Statement in The Wheat Situation, February 1941, pages 7-8.

Table 1.- Weighted average cash price of wheat, specified markets and dates, 1940-41

Month and date	All classes: and grades: six markets: 1940	All classes: and grades: six markets: 1941	No. 2 Hard Winter: Kansas City: 1940	No. 2 Hard Winter: Kansas City: 1941	No. 1 Dk. N. Spring: Minneapolis: 1940	No. 1 Dk. N. Spring: Minneapolis: 1941	No. 2 Hard Amber Durum: Minneapolis: 1940	No. 2 Hard Amber Durum: Minneapolis: 1941	No. 2 Red Winter: St. Louis: 1940	No. 2 Red Winter: St. Louis: 1941	Soft White: Portland 1/: 1940	Soft White: Portland 1/: 1941
	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.
Month -												
Jan.	101.8	87.5	101.2	84.7	104.8	90.1	100.2	94.5	105.3	91.5	85.4	74.9
Feb.	101.0	81.4	99.4	77.8	104.3	85.0	99.7	93.5	105.6	85.8	85.3	73.0
Mar.	101.3	89.0	102.1	85.1	104.0	90.0	96.7	98.1	106.3	89.5	83.3	75.8
Week ended -												
Mar. 1	101.1	83.9	99.9	79.8	104.3	86.8	98.4	99.0	105.1	87.4	83.8	74.3
8	101.2	85.8	100.5	80.5	104.3	86.7	97.1	99.3	105.9	87.3	83.5	74.6
15	100.7	89.6	99.8	83.7	103.1	88.9	95.7	99.3	106.6	90.5	82.9	75.6
22	101.2	90.1	102.7	85.4	103.8	89.6	96.8	98.4	106.4	90.6	83.5	76.4
29	102.5	89.8	103.1	86.8	105.3	92.2	97.1	95.7	107.0	90.7	83.3	76.8
Apr. 5	102.6	91.0	103.2	88.5	105.2	95.4	97.1	95.0	107.6	95.4	83.5	76.3
12	104.1	90.8	104.3	87.6	106.9	94.8	96.9	97.2	109.6	92.5	82.9	76.0
19	107.2	91.1	108.3	87.9	109.7	95.5	95.6	95.6	111.9	93.1	85.1	75.6
High 2/	107.2	91.1	108.3	88.5	109.7	95.5	104.2	99.8	111.9	95.4	87.1	76.8
Low 2/	97.3	78.7	95.4	76.3	100.4	82.6	95.7	90.4	105.1	84.5	82.9	71.9

1/ Weekly average of daily cash quotations, basis No. 1 sacked.
2/ January 4 to April 19, 1941 and corresponding dates 1940.

Survey indicates distribution of storage space available for crop

A nation-wide survey covering all commercial storage facilities and grain stocks 2/ as of March 1 has been made by the Agricultural Marketing Service through its field forces and those of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Preliminary returns from 24 States show a rated bulk storage capacity of 694 million bushels, a sacked capacity of 245 million bushels, and corn-crib space of a little over 8 million bushels -- a total of 947 million bushels. New construction either under way or contemplated in these States on March 1 will have an estiamted capacity of 50 million bushels. Thus, a total commercial storage space of about 1 billion bushels is indicated in these States.

March 1 stocks of all commodities, as represented by returns to date in the 24 States, are reported at 454 million bushels. When these stocks are substracted from the reported capacity, there is a remainder of

2/ Survey covered all establishments storing wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, rice, flaxseed, soybeans, and grain sorghums, and included elevators, warehouses, flour and feed mills, corn, soybean and flaxseed products mills, malting plants, breweries, distilleries, bean cleaning plants, and rice mills. Facilities included idle commercial plants that could readily be placed in operation. All farm storage and the steel-bin storage owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation, which together in previous estimates accounted for about two-fifths of the nation's total, were excluded.

493 million bushels of unoccupied space. Not all of this is available storage space, however, the Agricultural Marketing Service cautions. Allowances must be made for working space and for partially filled bins to which, for various reasons, no more grain can be added. The unoccupied space as reported on March 1 takes this into account, as only 353 million bushels are reported available. This is probably a minimum figure, however, since some operators apparently reported only space available for rent and a few failed to give any information. Operators estimated that by June 1 the net out-movement of grain would be sufficient to increase this available space to 406 million bushels, also probably a minimum figure.

Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas: Practically complete returns for Texas show bulk storage capacity of 69 million and sacked storage of 23 million bushels. Construction under way or contemplated will provide about 11 million bushels of additional space. Stocks of all grains on March 1 were about 46 million and available unoccupied space was reported at 40 million bushels. Space to be available on June 1 was shown at 47 million bushels. Available space on March 1 in the northern districts of Texas was relatively small, but considerable available space was reported in the southern Texas districts.

With some minor counties still incomplete, total bulk storage capacity in Oklahoma was 33 million and sacked storage 2 million bushels. Additional space for over 5 million bushels was contemplated in that State. On March 1, 19 million bushels of all grains were in store, and unoccupied space of 12 million was available.

With the survey now virtually complete for Kansas, total bulk storage is reported at 112 million and sacked storage at 1 million bushels. New construction of 9 million bushels capacity was contemplated. Stocks of all grains on March 1 were 64 million bushels and the operators reported available unoccupied space of 36 million bushels. It is estimated that space for 51 million bushels will be available June 1.

The Dakotas: In North Dakota, bulk storage capacity of 50 million bushels was reported, and space for an additional 2 million bushels was planned. Stocks of all grains in the State on March 1 were 37 million bushels. Unoccupied available space was reported at only 8 million bushels, and space to be available on June 1 at only 11 million bushels.

A bulk storage capacity of 22 million bushels was reported in South Dakota, and 300,000 bushels of new construction was under way in the State. March 1 stocks of all grains totaled 13 million bushels and the unoccupied space was reported at 6 million. The operators estimated that on June 1 about 8 million bushels of unoccupied space would be available.

Pacific Coast States: In Washington, bulk storage capacity was 37 million bushels and sacked storage capacity 42 million. New construction under way or planned will provide space for an additional 1,300,000 bushels. On March 1, stocks of all grains were 26 million bushels and there was

45 million bushels of available unoccupied space. Operators estimated that on June 1 additional storage for 53 million bushels would be available.

In Oregon, bulk storage capacity was 14 million bushels and sacked capacity 20 million. A half million bushels of new space was under way or planned. March 1 stocks of all grains totaled 12 million bushels, and unoccupied space available was 18 million. It was expected that on June 1 space for about 21 million bushels would be avialable.

For California, 15 million bushels of bulk storage capacity and 90 million of sacked capacity were reported. New construction was given at 2.6 million bushels. Stocks totaled 32 million bushels, and the unoccupied space on March 1 was 58 million. By June 1, it was expected that space for 67 million bushels would be available.

THE WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

BACKGROUND.- Total world supplies of wheat 3/ increased sharply from 1924 to 1933, largely as a result of increased acreage. From 1934 to 1936, world supplies declined, following successive years of small yields and increased world demand. Supplies increased slightly in 1937. With above-average yields on the large acreage, supplies in 1938, 1939, and 1940 were the largest on record.

World wheat prices declined in the period 1924-33 with the increase in world supplies. The sharp decline in prices after 1929 was caused largely by the general decline in industrial activity and commodity prices. From the spring of 1933 to the summer of 1937, world wheat prices moved upward, reflecting world-wide recovery in commodity price levels, currency depreciation, and reduced production. The world price for the 1937 crop remained practically unchanged from that of a year earlier. In 1938, world prices again declined sharply as a result of record world production and weakness in demand. Prices in 1939-40 remained low but averaged higher than a year earlier, influenced by general expectations of increased demand for wheat as a result of the war, and by poor crop prospects in Argentina and the United States. In 1940-41 large supplies in surplus countries and reduced trade held prices to low levels.

World wheat crop prospects about same as in 1940

Prospects continue for a world wheat crop in 1941 not greatly different from that of last year. Much, however, will depend upon developments in Canada, where a new Government program calls for a large reduction in this year's wheat crop. On the other hand, some increase is expected in

3/ All references to world acreage, yield, production, and stocks in this report exclude Soviet Russia and China.

Europe and Ausrralia over last year's small outturns. No important reduction in acreage is likely in Argentina unless the season is unfavorable, as growers are hopeful that the Government aid will be continued. At present little change is expected in the United States crop compared with last year.

While winter wheat acreages in most sections in Europe are considered to have been generally maintained and in a few countries increased, yields are expected to be affected in many cases by shortages of farm labor, draft power, and fertilizer. With around normal weather conditions, an outturn above last year's short crop could be reasonably expected, but very favorable growing and harvesting conditions would be necessary to secure an average or better-than-average crop. In the Danubian countries and Greece winter wheat continues subnormal, and spring sowings are expected to be seriously impeded in certain sections by war operations and unfavorable weather. In northern and western Europe the season is late as the result of an unusually cold spring, but weather permitting some increase in spring wheat acreage is probable. In western Europe the winter crop is still below average, and in southern Europe below-average to average. In France the Government is asking growers to increase the acreage of foodstuffs and is guaranteeing to buy the entire output at a minimum price equal to the maximum in 1940. In the British Isles the winter was severe, but with expanded fall seedings and prospects that spring plantings will be increased by plowing additional land, some further crop gains are expected to be made. The acreage seeded to winter wheat in Sweden has been officially estimated at 569,000 acres compared with 536,000 acres last year.

The Canadian fall seedings were reported as 555,000 acres, which represents a substantial reduction from the 816,000 acres seeded a year earlier. In the U.S.S.R. a full winter wheat acreage is reported to have been planted. In India wheat harvesting is now under way, and the crop has been officially placed at 382.0 million bushels compared with the revised figure for last year of 391.6 million bushels. The third official wheat report of acreage seeded put the acreage at 34,108,000 acres, as compared with the revised estimate for 1940 of 33,465,000 acres. Soil conditions in Argentina are mostly satisfactory and preparations for seeding wheat, which starts in June, are active and on an extensive scale. In Australia soil preparations are proceeding satisfactorily.

World carry-over July 1941 expected to be about same as record last July

While there is little basis upon which to forecast the 1940-41 world disappearance or the carry-over next July, as indicated in the March issue, it would appear that the crop of 1940, placed at 4,066 million bushels, would about equal the disappearance. This would indicate a carry-over next July of about the same size as in July 1940, when an all-time record was reached. Surplus stocks are largely concentrated in Canada, the United States, and Argentina.

Because of the large surplus in Argentina, sacked wheat is being piled outside under canvas covers at some stations. These wheat piles, however, are being built better than usual, no doubt because of the prospect that some of this grain may be stored in piles for the duration of the war.

The piles are built upon platforms 6 to 8 inches from the ground and in many cases galvanized iron sheeting to a height of about 8 feet is being placed around the piles.

A large percentage of the wheat in Argentina is of poor quality this year. About 25 percent of the crop in the northern half of the wheat zone was unharvested at the time of heavy rains, which damaged the crop by affecting test weight, color, and plumpness. In the southern half, the quality of wheat in many localities suffered because of excessive rains at harvest in that area.

Table 2.- Estimated wheat surplus for export or carry-over for three exporting countries, April 1, 1938-41 1/

Position	1938	1939	1940	1941
	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels	Million bushels
Canada				
In Canada	44	146	349	592
In the United States	1	2	22	41
Australia	94	74	148	2/ 79
Argentina	80	268	102	159
Total	219	490	621	871

1/ Carry-over at the beginning of the year (Canada, July 31; Argentina, January 1; Australia, December 1 of the previous year) plus production minus domestic utilization for the year, minus monthly exports to date, last month for Australia and Argentina estimated.
2/ Based on official exports through February 1940, and unofficial estimates for succeeding months.

Prices in Winnipeg and Buenos Aires continue steady

Prices in both Winnipeg and Buenos Aires, where minimum prices are in effect, have continued to fluctuate very little, and average only slightly different from a month ago. Prices of near futures in these two markets, together with prices in Chicago, Kansas City, and Minneapolis are shown in table 3.

Table 3.- Average closing price of May wheat futures, specified markets and dates, 1940-41

Period	Winnipeg 1/		Buenos Aires		Chicago		Kansas City		Minneapolis	
	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Month										
Jan.	78.8	70.3	---	---	100.9	86.2	99.5	79.4	99.2	85.1
Feb.	79.1	70.4	---	---	101.0	81.4	95.2	74.0	98.7	81.1
Mar.	80.9	70.6	---	---	103.5	86.7	97.7	79.5	99.4	86.0
Week ended										
Mar. 1	80.9	70.6	61.2	54.9	102.1	83.5	95.9	76.0	99.1	83.2
8	81.2	70.3	61.5	54.9	103.2	83.3	97.2	76.0	99.8	83.0
15	80.3	71.5	61.6	54.9	102.4	86.4	96.4	79.0	98.2	85.6
22	80.9	70.8	62.0	54.9	104.2	87.6	98.5	80.5	99.7	86.5
29	81.2	69.9	62.3	54.9	105.3	89.5	100.0	82.4	100.2	88.9
Apr. 5	81.0	69.8	66.9	55.0	105.0	91.6	100.0	84.7	100.4	91.3
12	81.7	69.6	69.8	55.0	107.0	91.0	101.7	83.9	102.0	90.6
19	82.5	69.0	70.6	55.0	110.5	91.3	105.3	84.4	104.8	90.9
High 2/	82.5	71.5	3/70.6	3/55.8	110.5	91.6	105.3	84.7	104.8	91.3
Low 2/	76.7	69.0	3/57.8	3/54.9	96.8	79.8	91.4	72.4	95.6	79.6

1/ Conversions at official rate, which is 90.909 cents. Any United States buyer of Canadian grain would be required to make settlement in terms of United States dollars through an agent of the Canadian Foreign Exchange Control Board at the official rate.

2/ Jan. 4-Apr. 19, 1941 and corresponding dates 1940.

3/ March and May, 1940; April and May 1941.

Table 4.- Movement of wheat, including flour, from principal exporting countries, 1937-38 to 1940-41

Country	Exports as given by official sources: Total 1937-38	Total 1938-39	Total 1939-40	July 1 to date shown 1938-39	July 1 to date shown 1939-40	July 1 to date shown 1940-41	Date
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	
United States 1/	107,194	115,784	54,274	73,892	39,635	24,763	Feb. 28
Canada	94,546	159,885	210,212	123,397	160,211	118,759	Mar. 31
Argentina	69,670	116,116	177,561	45,311	115,077	60,510	Feb. 28
Australia	123,453	96,672	---	58,726	41,107	---	Feb. 28
Soviet Union	43,354	2/38,000	---	---	---	---	---
Hungary	9,368	27,650	---	18,442	30,219	---	Feb. 28
Yugoslavia	5,012	5,346	9,666	4,298	6,660	---	Jan. 31
Rumania	32,220	40,298	34,138	28,805	24,672	---	Feb. 28
Bulgaria	8,489	2,633	---	179	4,749	---	Jan. 31
British India	19,677	10,097	---	---	---	---	---
Total	512,983	612,481					

	Shipments as given by trade sources 3/: Total 1938-39	Total 1939-40	Week ended - 1941 Apr. 5	Apr. 12	Apr. 19	July 1 1939-40	Apr. 19 1940-41
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America	245,296	209,872	6,010	6,661	8,541	167,392	152,712
Argentina	114,272	173,776	2,264	2,339	2,116	135,184	74,276
Australia	102,116	---	---	---		4/	
Soviet Union	39,824						
Danube and Bulgaria 5/	52,848	39,616					
British India	6/10,097	6/					
Total above	564,453					7/302,576	7/226,988
Total European shipments	450,784						
Total ex-European shipments	146,760						

1/ Includes flour milled in bond from foreign wheat.
2/ From official sources, through December, supplemented by unofficial estimates.
3/ From Broomhall's Corn Trade News and Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin.
4/ Through September 2 only; not available by weeks subsequently.
5/ Black Sea shipments only.
6/ Official 1938-39, not available subsequently.
7/ North America and Argentina only.

WHERE TO FIND STATISTICS ON THE WHEAT SITUATION NOT INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE: 1/

	Page	Issue
THE DOMESTIC WHEAT SITUATION		
Supply and distribution		
All wheat, 1923-40	14	Mar. 1941 WS-53
Classes, July-June, 1929-39	5	Feb. 1941 WS-52
Classes, 1940	8	Mar. 1941 WS-53
Supplies for export and carry-over, 1923-39	6	Aug. 1940 WS-46
Acreage, yield, and production		
Acreage seeded by regions, 1919-40	15	Sept. 1940 WS-47
Production by classes, 1919-40	14	Dec. 1940 WS-50
Stocks		
January 1, 1935-41	4	Feb. 1941 WS-52
Exports and imports		
Exports of wheat including flour to specified countries, 1910-39	27	Aug. 1940 WS-46
Imports into the United States, 1923-39	30	Aug. 1940 WS-46
Sales and income, and prices		
Sales, price per bushel, and cash income, 1910-40	12	Feb. 1941 WS-52
Percentage monthly sales, average 1928-37, and annual 1928-39	15	Nov. 1940 WS-49
Average price received by farmers, 1908-40	13	Jan. 1941 WS-51
THE WORLD WHEAT SITUATION		
Supply and distribution		
1922-40	15	Mar. 1941 WS-53
1938-40	10	Mar. 1941 WS-53
Averages 1924-28, 1928-37, annual 1914, 1937	6	Sept. 1939 WS-35
Acreage, yield, and production		
Acreage, yield, and production, 1923-40	20	Mar. 1941 WS-53
Acreage of wheat in specified countries, 1937-40	18	Mar. 1941 WS-53
Production by countries, 1937-40	8	Jan. 1941 WS-51
Stocks, July 1		
1922-40	7	Aug. 1940 WS-46
Major exporting countries, 1922-40	21	Mar. 1941 WS-53
International trade		
International trade in wheat including flour, averages 1925-34, annual 1937-39	16	Feb. 1941 WS-52
World shipments and to Europe and non-Europe, averages 1910-14, 1930-34, and annual 1914-16, 1937-38	7	Sept. 1939 WS-35

1/ Selected tables used most frequently.

STATISTICS ON THE RYE SITUATION IN "THE WHEAT SITUATION" DECEMBER 1940